

## Message Text

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20

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 OMB-01 DRC-01 /161 W

----- 011125

P R 040930Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4934

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIBREVILLE 0861

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GB

SUBJ: PRESIDENT BONGO CONVERTS TO ISLAM

REF: LIBREVILLE 0851 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO VARIETY OF SOURCES PRESIDENT BONGO  
CONVERTED TO MOSLEM RELIGION SEPTEMBER 29, 1973.

2. NEWS APPEARED IN "LE MONDE" FOLLOWING  
TUNIS AFP STORY SEPTEMBER 30. WHILE GOG HAS BEEN  
EVASIVE IN MATTER, STATING THAT "PRIVATE LIFE OF CHIEF  
OF STATE NEEDS NO PRESS COMMENT BECAUSE PRESIDENT'S  
RELIGION HAS NO DIRECT CONSEQUENCES IN COUNTRY LIKE  
GABON WHERE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM REIGNS," IMAN OF  
LIBREVILLE MOSQUE CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY THAT BONGO HAD  
INDEED CONVERTED TO ISLAM SEPTEMBER 29 IN CEREMONY  
ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF MOROCCO, SAUDI ARABIA,  
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LIBYA AND UAE.

3. FRENCH CHARGE ADDED THAT BONGO HAD TAKEN ISLAMIC  
NAME OF 'OMAR AND THAT PRESIDENT PLANNED TO MAKE STATE  
VISIT TO UGANDA OCTOBER 6.  
MCKESSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RELIGIOUS GROUPS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** willialc  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973LIBREV00861  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** LIBREVILLE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731051/aaaablmj.tel  
**Line Count:** 66  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** LIBREVILLE 0851 (NOTAL)  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** willialc  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20-Nov-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <20-Nov-2001 by willialc>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENT BONGO CONVERTS TO ISLAM  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SOCI, GB, (BONGO, ALBERT BERNARD)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005